WHAT IS CLAIMED:

- 1. A residual current device having a reset lockout mechanism comprising:
 a housing;
- a user handle connected to a compression arm; and
- a solenoid having a magnetized shaft and a relay connected to the housing;
 a shim connected to the compression arm that is slidably engaged to move from a
 position between the path of the shaft and relay to a position not in between the path of
 the shaft and the relay.